

COLLINS et al
Appl. No. 10/511,747
September 14, 2007

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 44-48 and 52-58 are in the case.

I. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

It is noted, with appreciation, that claims 44-48 and 52-58 are allowable. In light of that indication, and without conceding to any merit in the outstanding rejection, the remaining claims have been canceled without prejudice leaving allowed claims 44-48 and 52-58 in the case.

Preferred features have been presented in separate dependent claims. No new matter is entered.

II. THE OBVIOUSNESS REJECTION

Claims 30-37 and 49-51 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,089,150 to Hen, in view of Bates. As noted above, the rejected claims have been canceled without prejudice. The obviousness rejection has accordingly been rendered moot. Withdrawal of the obviousness rejection is respectfully requested.

Favorable action on this application is awaited.

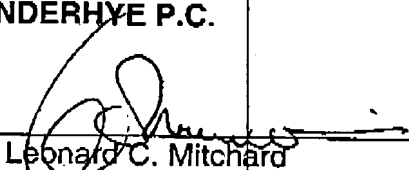
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Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

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